

PacMARS-SOAR Open Workshop

20 January 2013

Captain Cook Hotel

Anchorage, Alaska

The Pacific Marine Arctic Regional Synthesis (PacMARS) is a project underwritten by the North Pacific Marine Research Institute to assemble by mid-year 2013 up-to-date documentation that contributes to understanding the Pacific-influenced continental-shelf ecosystem of the Arctic Ocean. The objective is to compile the best available knowledge from local communities, and from peer-reviewed social and natural sciences, as well as less readily available knowledge sources. The overall goal is to provide guidance for scientific research needs in the region. The Synthesis of Arctic Research (SOAR) is a 5-year project supported by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). SOAR is chartered to synthesize scientific information and local observations to improve understanding of the relationships among oceanographic conditions, benthic organisms, lower trophic prey species (forage fish and zooplankton), seabirds, and marine mammal distribution and behavior for the Pacific Arctic region. The SOAR effort builds on existing interdisciplinary work to develop detailed syntheses to inform management decision-makers and to guide future research studies.

Based on the synergistic objectives of PacMARS and SOAR, we are jointly sponsoring an open community workshop on 20 January 2013, just prior to the 2013 Alaska Marine Science Symposium in Anchorage, Alaska, to provide an update of our activities and to solicit input on themes for future research initiatives in the region. The agenda for the PacMARS-SOAR workshop will include highlight presentations of activities from both synthesis projects, followed by break-out sessions with the workshop participants to identify additional data synthesis activities being undertaken, and to develop a composite of scientific themes for future interdisciplinary and interagency efforts in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas.

Further information on the workshop will be available on the PacMARS (<http://pacmars.cbl.umces.edu>) and SOAR (<http://www.arctic.noaa.gov/soar/>) websites.

Contact PacMARS lead Jackie Grebmeier (jgrebmei@umces.edu) and/or SOAR lead Sue Moore (sue.moore@noaa.gov) with any questions.

Planning to attend? RSVP Lisa Guy
([workshop registration form](#)) with your name
and contact information